

Subject: *MASHADIN Mykola*
Source: *BeCassaway/57*
Date: 15 April 1966

DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
SOURCE METHOD EXEMPTION 3020
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2007

1. Meeting took place in Subject's room in the International House at Columbia University on 14 April 1966 at 6:30 P.M. and lasted until 8:30 P.M.
2. Subject knew about the arrests of Dziuba and Svitlychny, commenting that he was not sure if they did take place. But in any event if Svitlychny was arrested for smuggling Symonenko's diary to the West, the arrest was justified. About the reasons for Dziuba's arrest he did not know, adding that he must have really done something bad. Source argued about the reasons given, saying that it would be wrong to arrest Svitlychny for smuggling Symonenko's diary and poetry to the west, since the poetry was well known in Ukraine in the form of handwritten copies long before Suchanist published it, adding that sadly enough, in the twentieth century, reality is such that writers in Ukraine have to resort to smuggling literature to the West, in order to publish it. Subject agreed with Source, but said that matters are slowly improving and in a few years *at* most anything will be publishable. Subject then went on to say that it was wrong to publish Symonenko's diary since it was not ~~meant~~ meant to be published, and Symonenko wrote it only for himself. He cited the dedication at the beginning of the diary "to read other diaries without permission is ~~x~~ the epitome of baseness". Source countered by saying many personal diaries of literary figures have already been published, Dovzhenko's diary for example, and no one raised such a controversy over it, but because Symonenko showed rather vividly Soviet literary reality in his, the act was censored by Soviet officialdom. Subject did not reply, but rather seemed embarrassed by the whole incident. Subject asked if there will be other poems similar to Symonenko's published in the future, Source said that he did not know, but said that if the present terror continues, it might become embarrassing to the poem, since he is sure that Symonenko is not the only young Ukrainian poet to write such verses. He (Source) added that the trial and sentencing of Lingovsky and Daniel did not do much to improve relations between peoples, but rather caused many Western communist parties to take a very

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of the view of the affair. Source went on and that even at the Soviet party congress, when Sholokov was giving his speech against the young Soviet writers who stray from the party line, Gomulka and the Russian party leaders remained silent, and did not applaud. Subject agreed with source, saying that he personally was disturbed by the trial, and wished that it never took place. There were many protests inside the USSR about the arrests of Ginyavsky and Daniel. Subject knew of, and many of the people who were against the trial, were high members of the party, well known cultural leaders and writers. But according to Subject the trial was due to the insistence of "hard line" members of the Central Committee. Subject speculated that it seemed that the KGB was increasing its powers, with the promotion of SEMYONASTOV to full membership in the Central Committee. Subject went on to say that he thinks it would be harmful for Ukrainians abroad to publish poetry similar to Symonenko's, since this would only harm more young poets in Ukraine, and destroy many years of hard work. When asked what members of the Ukrainian Mission at the U.N. were saying about the arrests, Subject answered that they knew about as much as he did, and everyone was waiting for an announcement from Kiev.

3. Subject said that at the Party Congress, one of the topics discussed was the widening of rights of the Soviet Republics. This topic was discussed for ^{years} before the Congress, and could have very big implications in the future. He asked how these "widening of rights" will appear practically, Subject did not say, because he did not really know, one possibility would be that in the near future, the Ukrainian SSR will have its own embassy in Washington and Ottawa. Subject's own beliefs are that it should exist (a separate Ukrainian embassy) he added that in conversations with Prof. MEDVEDEV, Subject noticed that Medvedev was a very strong advocate of a separate Ukrainian embassy in Washington and Ottawa.

4. Subject believes that the Ukrainian emmigration should try to make contacts with the top men in the Ukrainian Central Committee, this would make cooperation easier in many respects. He agreed with Source that in

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the Central Committee there were people of different views towards the emigration, some who take a hard line, and others more soft. These people should be talked with. When asked who these people were, Subject did not know their names.

5. During the conversation, Subject asked Source how the poetry, and diary of Symonenko managed to get to the West, if Ovitlychny was not responsible for smuggling it over. Subject asked if the poems were mailed or if someone brought them over. Source said that he did not know.

6. At the end of May, Subject will travel to Washington and work in the Library of Congress for a few weeks doing research.

7. Another meeting was agreed upon, with no set time or date.